

A COMPLAINT
of Violation of FEC Regulations regarding Candidate Debates

Werner Lange
Complainant
Independent Candidate
14th Congressional District of Ohio
Newton Falls, Ohio 44444

vs. Jim Collins
Respondent
Executive in Residence
Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Dr.
Kirtland, Ohio 44094-5198

MUR # 5817

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

On August 11 (2006) Complainant, a certified candidate for Ohio's 14th Congressional District, contacted in writing Lakeland Community College to inquire about an impending debate among congressional candidates in the 14th District of Ohio. In that message, Rev. Lange asked to be included in the debate. On August 15, Rev. Lange was informed that the debate will be restricted to "major party candidates only". On August 16, the debate, which intentionally and knowingly excluded the Complainant, was taped in the studios of Lakeland Community College, a publicly funded institution of higher education. The following day, on August 17, a report about the debate along with photos of the two major party candidates appeared in The News-Herald, a newspaper which allegedly once had the Respondent as its editor. Several subsequent messages to the Respondent which drew explicit attention to the discrimination and called for a correction were totally unanswered by the Respondent and the President of Lakeland Community College. The taped debate excluding the Complainant is scheduled for broadcast to the general public via cable in the very near future. A 30-minute debate provides ample opportunity for three candidates as well as two to present their positions on key social issues of the campaign.

VIOLATION OF FEC REGULATIONS:


This discriminatory act which intentionally and willfully excluded the Complainant from the debate stands in violation of Section 110.13 (c) of the FEC Regulations ("Criteria for candidate selection") which states "For general election debates, staging organization(s) shall not use nomination by a particular political party as the sole objective criterion to determine whether to include a candidate in a debate".

Respectfully (re)Submitted on this September 12, 2006 by


Rev. Werner Lange

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 12th day of September, 2006

Sworn and Signed before me this 12th day of Sept. 2006

X 
RUSSELL D. JACOBSON
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires
August 12, 2007

27044164236

27044164236
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

EarthLink

werlange@earthlink.net

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From:

To: werner <werlange@earthlink.net>

Subject: Re congressional candidate debate

Date: Aug 15, 2006 3 44 PM

Rev. Lange,

(MED)

The campaign interviews conducted by the News-Herald and t
at Lakeland Community College have historically been for n
party candidates only.

[230]

This is mainly due to the time constraints of a 30 minute
format.

[99]

[0]

[1519]

If you have additional questions, please contact campaign
moderator Jim Collins, Editor Emeritus of the News-Herald
Lakeland's Executive in Residence, at jcollins@lakelandcc.

[0]

Thank you for your interest.

Dawn

Dawn Plante
Director of Marketing & Communications
Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Drive
Kirtland, OH 44094
440-525-7327
dplante@lakelandcc.edu

werlang <werlange@earthlink.net>

08/11/2006 12 34 PM

Please respond to werner

To dplante@lakelandcc.edu

cc.

Subject: congressional candidate debate

Dear Ms. Plante,

I have noticed from published reports in local newspapers
Lakeland Community College has been recording debates amor
select 2006 candidates for public office. I am a certifie
candidate for the 14th Congressional District of Ohio. Hc
I have received no notification of or invitation to such a

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debate for this vital office. It is my sincere hope and expectation that such an invitation will be forthcoming if when a debate among the congressional candidates is scheduled for recording and broadcast through your publicly funded facilities. Thank you for your anticipated proactive response.

Sincerely,

Rev. Werner Lange
Independent Candidate
14th Congressional District of Ohio

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*From the desk of
Rev Dr. Werner Lange*

Newton Falls, Ohio 44444

August 22, 2006

Jim Collins
Executive in Residence
Lakeland Community College
Kirtland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Collins,

Evidently my numerous messages to you regarding the impropriety, indeed likely illegality, of your intentional exclusion of me in the taped debate discriminatorily restricted to only major party candidates has fallen on deaf ears. I write today to make sure that you are fully informed of federal regulations regarding such debates so that you will not be able to claim ignorance. I call your particular attention to subsection © of Section 110.13 of the Code of Federal Regulations of the Federal Elections Commission, and once again urge you to comply with this important regulation attempting to promote fairness in elections, something that currently is clearly not the case.

Surely a publicly funded educational institution and a reputable newspaper have a definite interest in compliance with federal regulations, regardless of what the personal bias of managers of either would be. Noncompliance, of course, does have its consequences.

Sincerely,


Rev. Werner Lange
Candidate
14th Congressional District of Ohio

enclosure: FEC, Code of Fed. Regs, pages 178-179

c: Morris Beverage, President of LLC

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Aug 17, 2006

The News-Herald

Local/State

Katz, LaTourette appear for N-H TV interviews

John Arthur Hutchison

jhutchison@news-herald.com

The two major party candidates for Ohio's 11th Congressional District expressed their views Wednesday about topics such as national security, foreign policy and trade, health care, immigration and energy.

The candidates are Lewis Katz, a Pepper Pike Democrat, and incumbent U.S. Rep. Steven C. LaTourette, R-Concord Township.

They appeared jointly for a 40-minute taped television interview at Lakeland Community College in Kirtland part of the News-Herald's Campaign 2006.

The Rev. Werner Lange is an independent candidate from Newton Falls in Trumbull County. He was not included in the interview, as The News-Herald traditionally extends the invitation only to major party candidates.

Moderators for the session were Jim Collins, editor emeritus of The News-Herald, and Lake and executive vice president and Steve Muller, an assistant city editor for The News-Herald.

The program will be shown on Lakeland Community College's cable channel at a date to be determined.

Katz said the country should implement the recommendations of the 9/11 commission.

Intelligence gathering also has overstepped boundaries in areas that include eavesdropping on phone calls, he said.

LaTourette said there is a delicate balance when it comes to keeping people safe. He said intelligence gathering has been unfairly criticized because the public has benefited and tragedies averted.

LaTourette said he has no problem with the government listening to conversations of people talking overseas to al Qaeda.

Katz said that trade is not occurring close to home and that he would have voted against the Central America Free Trade Agreement unlike his opponent.



Katz



LaTourette

Each candidate said that trade is not occurring with China.

LaTourette said he voted against favored nation trade status for China.

Katz favors a single payer health plan to cover all Americans.

LaTourette advocates health plans that allow groups to band together and the transportation of drugs from countries such as Canada.

The United Nations has stated it is a wolf in a watchdog's coat in the Middle East, Katz said. A policy of appeasement and a lack of political will are to blame, LaTourette said.

Both candidates said strengthening security at our borders is critical to deter illegal immigration.

It is wrong to blanketly grant citizenship to illegal immigrants and decisions on whether to deport or grant citizenship should be made on a case-by-case basis, LaTourette said.

Katz said illegal immigration needs to be addressed from the employment side. He said raising the minimum wage is one way to help domestic business from hiring illegal immigrants because there would be more demand for work from American citizens.

The country needs an energy policy as ambitious as President John F. Kennedy's plan to put a man on the moon before 1970, Katz said.

LaTourette said there is an energy plan in place and Democrats need to be realistic because they want gasoline prices to drop to \$1 per gallon but they don't want to expand oil and natural gas exploration in the United States.

Boys can serve

Associated Press

KENILTON — A judge decided two teenagers can complete their high school football seasons before they serve 60-day jail sentences for a car crash caused by a decoy deer placed on a country road. Two teens were injured.

Judge Gary McKinley, a retired Union County juvenile judge hearing the case in Hardin County Common Pleas Court,

said he be critic

I shot I'm got things football bell a ju

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Campb Howard tenced T detention

SCIATICA?

Cleveland — A new free report has recently been released that reveals how space travel cures sciatica and the breakthrough technology that's bringing it to you. Research has proven non-surgical spinal decompression is successful in treating debilitating sciatica. Even herniated discs. Find out why astronauts don't have low back pain. This accidental discovery has led to the most effective treatment today. For your free report entitled "Age Technology is Solving Back Pain Without Dr. Surgery," call 1-800-659-6318 for the toll-free 2 message or go to www.spinebreakthrough.com

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